(aa) (bb.)

What Slavery is doing, and requiring us to do.

No. 1.

[To be set in order.]

× It requires us to proscribe ye whole colored people. It ~~[illegible]~~ forbids us ~~not~~ to view as men those whom GOD has made in ye image & likeness of men, — nay, nay, to in His own image & likeness; it requires us to condemn [~~& exclude~~] them because their color, a thing of GOD's ordaining, is not like our own; it requires us to make yt. a badge of dishonor, shame, & servitude wh. ye Creator has set upon some as truly noble & honorable as the ~~[illegible]~~ race has produced; ~~[illegible]~~ it requires us to exclude them from ye occupations & pursuits deemed most honorable among men, & by which they might ~~best~~ improve their condition & elevate themselves, — In short Slavery demands of us yt. we withhold every right, and every office of humanity (wh. even natural talent wd. prompt) ~~from~~ from ye individual whose complexion ~~[illegible]~~ has been tinged by God with ~~[illegible]~~ darker hue than our own.

Are we prepared to do this? A fearful responsibility - ~~and~~ one in whi., at every step, we must "fight against God".

Suppose it were done to us!!

~~[Suppose it shd. be tried on another class, - Suppose yt. every individ. born in Worcester Co, or here in this most ancient section of old Massachusetts, shd. be declared out-casts, outlaws, to be denied shelter, food & fire, to be ostracised from all civil & social ~~religious~~ rights, wd. you think it just, wd. you consent or submit to it, wd. you take part in inflicting these terrible wrongs upon these men?]~~

It is no less a wrong done to y. colored man - not a whit less heinous, in y. sight of God. The wrong, y. insult, y. ~~contumely~~ sneer & taunt, y. hate & malice, whi. in most sections of y. country, are heaped upon them (from which Mass. is by no means exempt, tho' she has made ~~a large~~ some advances in protecting this class of her citizens), they deeply feel. It cuts their hearts, it makes them cry out in bitterness & almost in despair. Few in numbers, and ~~less powerful~~ comparatively defenceless, why shd. they thus be despised, set at nought, tyrannised over, ground to y. dust, by y. more powerful, ~~the~~ numerous, & privileged of their fellowmen?

We cannot succeed in this work — GOD is agt it. Even now, spite of every discouraging & depressing influence, ye colored popn. of this country are rising in knowledge, in self-respect, & in consequent influence.

~~[1. Do you know yt. one of ye most eloquent preachers in Western N. Y. is a black man — Rev. S. R. Ward; & yt. he is ye chosen pastor of a white congregation. So far have conscience & principle triumphed over prejudice.~~

~~2. A Convention of colored persons is now called to be held in Troy in Octr. — Not ye first of ye kind]~~

True they have a mighty force to contend against, in their efforts to lift themselves out of ignorance & debasement. But they have right & justice & God on their side. Think you they can fail? ~~Or will~~ And you, Friends, will you not speak for them a friendly word, will you not help to mitigate ye grief wh. preys on them, & to remove ye unjust burdens wh. weigh them down?

to EC

~~acting thro' ye Courts~~

× Slavery, requires yt. we make ourselves ~~ye humble tools~~* of its Despotic aims and behests,

* instruments, agents,

1. It requires yt. we shall yield no protection to ye flying Slave — yt. no portion of our soil shall be free soil to him — yt. we refuse to let him be a dweller amongst us, but give him back to ~~ye~~ those tender mercies of ye slaveholders wh. are cruel. It requires us to be sentinels of Slavery, and to lend no aid or coun-nance to ye slave's inborn desire of freedom. ×

MS B.1.6 v.13, p.35

2. It lays its ruthless hands on free Nort citizens, coming into their ports, throws them into jail, where, if left (as some have been by careless or avaricious shipmasters) for a consid. space of time, they are sold for life into Slavery — to pay their jail-fees & expenses

[Inquire what actual cases of this.]

Nor this alone — this great wrong being done, it demands yt. we, to whom it is done, shall seek no redress, and have none, if sought. Even now, Friends,